United Nations A/AC.182/L.105*

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
26 April 1999

Original: English

Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization
12–23 April 1999

Working paper submitted by Mexico

1. The following paragraphs are proposed for inclusion in the general resolution to be adopted by the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session on the report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization (item 160 of the preliminary list) as a result of the consideration of the topic "Strengthening of the International Court of Justice":

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* that the International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations,

"*Noting* an increase in the recourse to the Court by States and the effects of such an increase on its operation,

"*Recalling* its resolution 53/106 of 8 December 1998 by which it requested the Charter Committee to consider practical ways and means of strengthening the International Court of Justice,

"*Bearing in mind* the comments and observations submitted by the Court and by States on the consequences that the increase in the volume of cases before the Court has on its operation,[1]

"1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Court for the measures adopted to operate an increased workload with maximum efficiency;[1]

"2. *Invites* the Court to keep its working methods under periodic review and to adopt, whenever possible, additional measures aimed to expedite its proceedings;

"3. *Invites* States who appear before the Court to implement the measures identified in paragraph 39 of the document containing the comments and observations of the Court,[1] and to adopt, whenever possible, any other measure that may help to expedite the proceedings."

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* Reissued for technical reasons.

[1] A/53/326 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

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2. The Committee may also adopt a decision inviting the competent administrative organs of the United Nations to give careful consideration to the request of the Court for an increased budget. It may be recalled that during the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly the regular budget of the United Nations for the biennium 2000–2001 will be adopted. Possible language to be reflected in the report of the Special Committee on this issue may be as follows:

> "In the context of the discussion, the Committee was of the view that the request of the International Court of Justice for an increased budget was justified and merited consideration. Nevertheless, since the adoption of decisions on budgetary issues is not within the competence of the Special Committee, it decided to refer the issue to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) and to the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly, and to request them to give a careful consideration to it."

3. Once adopted, the request may be transmitted to ACABQ and to the Fifth Committee by a letter from the Chairperson of the Special Committee.